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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/390,389	09/03/1999	HUI-LING LOU	13-13	6784

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[REDACTED] EXAMINER

BURD, KEVIN MICHAEL

[REDACTED] ART UNIT [REDACTED] PAPER NUMBER

2631

DATE MAILED: 06/05/2003

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

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Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/390,389	LOU ET AL.	
	Examiner Kevin M Burd	Art Unit 2631	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 12 March 2003.

2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.

3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1-5,8-16,19-22 and 24 is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6) Claim(s) 1-5,8-16,19-22 and 24 is/are rejected.

7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

11) The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) approved b) disapproved by the Examiner.
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.

12) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

13) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a) All b) Some * c) None of:

1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

14) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).

a) The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.

15) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)	4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)	5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____	6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

1. This office action, in response to the amendment filed 3/12/2003, is a non-final office action.

Response to Amendment

2. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-5, 8-16, 19-22 and 24 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 1-5, 8-16, 19-22 and 24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Jones et al (US 6,233,271) in view of Contemporary Logic design, Randy H Katz, 1994, pages 266-269.

Regarding claims 1, 2, 11-13, 22 and 24, Jones discloses an apparatus and method of process information in a receiver. Jones receives a signal that is mapped to a point in a constellation (column 9, lines 34-37). This signal is processed when received. It is inherent that for any first constellation, there exists a constellation that is a rotated version of that first constellation. Therefore the first constellation will always correspond

to a rotated version of a second constellation. Jones further discloses calculating a channel estimation value and outputting the selected value to decoding elements (figure 16 and column 12, lines 30-48). The received signal and channel estimation are input to a decoder to recover the original symbol that was transmitted from the transmitter (abstract). The received signal contains both in-phase and quadrature components (abstract).

Jones does not disclose outputting the recovered symbol without requiring a multiplication operation. Katz discloses, in pages 266-269, any multiplication operation can be computed using only logical gates and adders instead of multipliers. This is shown on page 267 and in figure 5.28. It would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate the teachings of Katz into the apparatus and method of Jones. The logic and adders will eliminate computational complexity of the multipliers of Jones and simpler components can be used in their stead.

Regarding claims 3 and 14, it is inherent that for any first constellation, there exists a constellation that is a 45 degree rotated version of that first constellation. Therefore the first constellation will always correspond to a rotated version of a second constellation.

Regarding claims 4 and 15, Jones discloses utilizing a PSK constellation (abstract).

Regarding claims 5 and 16, Jones discloses utilizing the maximum likelihood-decoding algorithm of a Viterbi decoder (abstract).

Regarding claims 8-10 and 19-21, Katz discloses how the input signal is processed before being input to the decoder of Jones.

Conclusion

Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

or faxed to:

(703) 872-9314, (for formal communications intended for entry or for informal or draft communications, please label "PROPOSED" or "DRAFT")

Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park II, 2121 Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA., Sixth Floor (Receptionist).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Kevin Burd, whose telephone number is (703) 308-7034. The Examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday from 9:00 AM - 6:00 PM.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3800.



Kevin M. Burd
PATENT EXAMINER
5/31/03